

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

**ABSTRACT**

A enamel-free paste for use especially in ovens at temperatures of up to about 420°C. The paste contains a matrix based upon a silicon (Si) polymer that can be obtained by the hydrolysis and condensation of at least one silane of general formula  $R_xSi(OR')_{4-x}$  with at least one polysiloxane of general formula  $[R_2SiO]_y$ , or  $R_3Si-(O-SiR_2)_y-O-SiR_3$ . The radicals R can independently be alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, alkylaryl or H; the radicals R' can independently be H, methyl, ethyl, n- or i-propyl, n-, iso-, sec- or tert-butyl; x represents 0 or 1 (for the first silane); x represents 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4 (for each subsequent silane); and y represents a whole number, which is at least 2 and can be approximately infinite. The paste additionally includes a high-boiling organic solvent with a boiling point of 100°C or above, and a pigment as the solvent, but does not include alcohol with a boiling point of below 100°C.